GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Service - Agricultural Marketing Department – Departmental proceedings initiated against Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada under Rule 20 of A.P. Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991– Article of Charge – Issued.

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AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.275 **Dated:20.04.2023**
Read:

E-file No.AGC05-24021/94/2022-ENG SEC-MRKT (Computer No: 1903459), dated:07.02.2023 & 21.03.2023.

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O R D E R:

It is proposed to hold an inquiry against Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada in accordance with the procedure laid down under Rule 20 of A.P. Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statements of article of charge (Annexure–I & II). A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom the article of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed(Annexure–III & IV).

3. Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada is directed to submit his written statement of defence within 15 days from the receipt of this order.

4. Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those article of charge that are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny the article of charge.

5. Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defence on or before the date specified in Para 3 above, further action will be proceeded based on the material available.

6. Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada is informed that Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 stipulates that under which no circumstances, Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to hear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings, it will be presumed that Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada is aware of such representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O.)

7. The receipt of this order may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHARA PRADESH)

CHIRANJIV CHOUDHARY, IFS,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada.
(Through : The Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, A.P., Guntur)
Copy to:-
The Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, A.P., Guntur (with a request to serve the order on the individual and send the served copy with dated signature of the Charged Officer to Government)
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

[Annexure to G.O.Rt.No.275, A&C(Vig.II) Dept., Dated:20.04.2023]

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI VENKATESWARA PALO DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (AM), KAKINADA

ARTICLE OF CHARGE:

"That Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada has failed to discharge his legitimate duties and failed to follow the orders of higher authority i.e. the Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, A.P. while progressing the total works of Multi Purpose Facility Centres (MPFC Godowns) at R.B.K. Villages under Sub Division, East Godavari District.

Thus, it shows his gross negligence towards his official duties and lack of devotion to duty and thus, violated the Rule 3 of A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964."

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI VENKATESWARA PALO DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (AM), KAKINADA

Imputations of Charge :-

Agricultural Marketing Department has taken up the prestigious project of construction of about 1200 Multi Purpose Facility Centers(MPFC Godowns) at R.B.K.Villages across the State. In Agricultural Marketing Sub-Division, Kakinada 82 Nos. of MPFC godowns are sanctioned and agreements are concluded on 07.12.2021 with a completion period of 9 months. The Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing Department, A.P., Guntur conducted Tele / Zoom Conferences on every alternate days and resolved all the site and local problems to a great extent. Further, the Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing Department, A.P., Guntur issued strict instructions to all Executive Engineers(AM) in the State to ground all the works positively by 30.06.2022.

The Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada did not ground even 56% of the works by 30.06.2022. Therefore due to slow progress of works, the then Commissioner & Director of Agricultural Marketing, A.P., Guntur conducted a meeting exclusively with Executive Engineer (AM) Vijayawada and the Deputy Executive Engineers(AM) on 01.07.2022 and closely reviewed every work and designed a special proforma duly covering all the possible site problems and obtained progress every day from July-2022 on wards.

Agricultural Marketing Sub-Division, Kakinada is having 83 Nos. of MPFC godowns after bifurcation of districts. Out of 83 Nos. sites, 77 Nos.

(P.T.O..4)

[Annexure to G.O.Rt.No.275, A&C(Vig.II) Dept., Dated:20.04.2023]

are found suitable to take up the construction of godown works. However, despite regular reviews and monitoring of progress only 57 Nos. godowns are grounded till 12.11.2022 (i.e. 74%). It clearly shows, that the Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada did not put any effort to ground the works from the last 5 months. Further, the Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada cited some site problems, paddy crops in encroached sites etc. to divert the issue.

Hence, the Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada has derelicted his legitimate duties and his in-action, irresponsibility adversely affected the entire State progress and he misguided the higher authorities till the eleventh hour.

1. The Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada grounded only 56% of works by 02.07.2022 even after 7 months of conclusion of the Agreements as detailed below:-

S.No.	Name of the District	Total No. of MPFC Godowns	No.of works Grounded	Average % of grounding
1.	East Godavari + Kakinada + Konaseema	82	46	56%
	Total:	**82**	**46**	

2. The Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada did not take up any initiative to ground the works although 77 sites are found suitable for construction out of 83 sites (93%). He has grounded 57 godowns only (74%) by 12-11-2022.

3. The Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada did not complete single work in the entire sub division, even after completion of the agreement time.

4. The Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada brought to super structure stage at 2 sites only in these 11 months in 3 districts of his jurisdiction.

S.No.	Name of the District	Super Structure stage
1.	East Godavari	2
2.	Kakinada	0
3.	Konaseema	0
	Total:	**2**

5. It is found out that there is a large difference between grounding of works and issue of work bills and nearly 38 Nos. work bills (i.e. 67%) have to be submitted as detailed below:-

(Contid..5)

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S.No.	Name of the District	No. of suitable sites	No. of woks grounded	No. of Bills raised till 12-11-2022
1.	East Godavari	46	30	6
2.	Kakinada	27	24	12
3.	Konaseema	4	3	1
	Total:	**77**	**57**	**19**

6. In Agricultural Marketing Sub-Division, Kakinada, it observed that at least 8 grounded works did not show any progress stage since 7 months. In East Godavari & Kakinada Districts, about 8 Nos. work bills are not further raised after issued the 1st and part bill since 7 months.

7. It is noticed that there is not even a single new work grounded since 3 months in East Godavari & Konaseem Districts, only one work is grounded in Kakinada District.

8. It clearly shows in-action and irresponsibility of the Deputy Executive Engineer(AM), Kakinada, as 20 Nos. works remained at earth work stage in Kakinada & East Godavari Districts since September-2022 to till date with out any progress.

It is evident that, Sri Venkateswara Palo, Deputy Executive Engineer (AM), Kakinada has shown gross negligence towards his legitimate duties and violation of Rule (3) of A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964. Hence, the charge.

ANNEXURE–III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI VENKATESWARA PALO, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(AM), KAKINADA

1.Agreement No.88/2021-22, dated:7.12.2021.
2.Zoom conference conducted by C&DAM, AP, Guntur on 12.11.2022.
3.Progress reports as follows:-
   a. Abstract for AIF project Statement-I for November, October, September and August-2022.
   b. Abstract for stage of work Statement-III for November, October and September-2022.
   c. Bills details for Krishna, NTR, West Godavari, Eluru, East Godavari, Kakinada and Konaseema Districts till to date.
   d. Mail sent by the Executive Engineer(AM), Vijayawada on 11.11.2022 regarding progress of works.

ANNEXURE–IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHOM BY THE ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI VENKATESWARA PALO, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ENGINEER(AM), KAKINADA ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

-- NIL --

CHIRANJIV CHOUDHARY, IFS,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT